

House Resolution 1732

By: Representative Manning of the 32<sup>nd</sup>

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Asthma Strategic Planning Study Committee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, asthma is one of the most chronic health conditions in the world, affecting over  
3 20 million people in the United States; and

4 WHEREAS, this affliction is responsible for more than 500,000 hospitalizations and 5,000  
5 deaths nationwide; and

6 WHEREAS, asthma costs Americans approximately \$11 billion per year in health care  
7 expenses and results in almost \$5 billion in additional costs due to worker absenteeism and  
8 lost productivity; and

9 WHEREAS, it is the most common childhood disorder, affecting approximately 11 percent  
10 of all persons in Georgia ages 17 and under; and

11 WHEREAS, asthma accounts for over 64,000 childhood emergency room visits in Georgia  
12 annually and is the most frequent reason for school absenteeism; and

13 WHEREAS, asthma affects people regardless of age, race, ethnic group, or gender.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
15 there is created the House Asthma Strategic Planning Study Committee to be composed of  
16 five members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House  
17 of Representatives, as well as representatives from the Governor's office, the Public  
18 Employee Health Benefits Division and the Division of Medical Assistance of the  
19 Department of Community Health, the Department of Education, the Department of Early  
20 Care and Learning, the American Lung Association, and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.  
21 The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson of the committee.

1 The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee. The committee shall undertake a  
2 study of the current prevalence of asthma in Georgia and determine a state-wide strategy for  
3 reducing the prevalence of the disease as well as improving the health status of Georgians  
4 with asthma.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,  
6 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action  
7 or legislation the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may conduct  
8 such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to  
9 enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the  
10 objectives and purposes of this resolution. The legislative members of the committee shall  
11 receive the allowance provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia  
12 Annotated. Citizen members shall receive a daily expense allowance in the amount specified  
13 in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated as well  
14 as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state employees. Any member who  
15 is a public official or employee other than a member of the General Assembly shall not  
16 receive a daily expense allowance but may be reimbursed for actual expenses by his or her  
17 public employer. All funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come  
18 from funds appropriated to the House of Representatives. The expenses and allowances  
19 authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member of the committee for more  
20 than five days unless additional days are authorized. In the event the committee makes a  
21 report of its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any,  
22 such report shall be made on or before December 31, 2006. The committee shall stand  
23 abolished on December 31, 2006.